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RUSSIA WANTS PEACE

Many Things Point in That Direction

Both Countries Prefer No War, but Hesitate to Make Overtures.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—It is learned from good authority that, at a conference at Tzarko Selo yesterday, the question of peace and the terms for peace were formally discussed. No particulars are obtainable, as the czar exercised silence from those present.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—Prince Friedrich Leopold of Prussia, whom it was said was the bearer of personal representations from the Kaiser to the czar, urging the necessity for ending the war in the Far East, left for Berlin at midnight.

Tokio, Feb. 18.—The report that the Japanese have unofficially informed Russia that her terms of peace will be accepted is officially denied here.

Berlin, Feb. 18.—Count Inouye, Japanese minister in this city, discussing peace rumors, which persist in circulating in responsible European quarters, especially in Russia, said today: "Russia has permitted the impression to get abroad that peace is impossible until she has won a great victory. That pre-supposes that, after suffering such defeat, Japan will be more ready to make peace than now. That is obviously a misconception.

"We are anxious that the war come to an end, but if Russia wins a great victory, the Japanese people will demand prompt and complete revenge. By Russian successes, therefore, will we be urged on to continue the struggle until we recover the ground lost.

"What we intend to avoid at all costs is the conclusion of a mere truce, which will entertain nothing but enduring peace; for we are determined to exclude for all time the recurrence of

The Blockade Broken

Many goods are still delayed but our snowbound

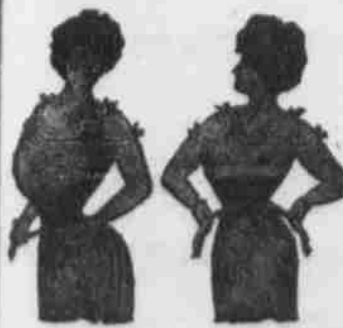
RIBBONS

Have arrived at last. It is the largest shipment of ribbons that we have ever received. Salem ladies know that

Barnes Cash Store
E. J. Barnes, Prop.

is the place to get ribbon bargains. We have no "special sales" but sell reliable merchandise at bargain prices every business day in the year.

We want to call your attention to one item in our



Thomson's Glove Fitting Corset Line.

It's the bust former and corset combined as shown in

Price 95c

Have you seen it?

such a situation as made this war necessary, the robbery of the fruits of our victory over China."

FIRE AT DAYTON.

The Home of Mrs. Elsie Cain Burned to the Ground.

Dayton, Feb. 18.—(Special)—The residence of Mrs. Elsie Cain, at this place, burned yesterday. The loss is estimated at \$1200, and the house was insured for \$800 in the McMinnville Fire Relief Association.

Convention at Cottage Grove.

The Knights of Pythias Lodges of Lane and Douglas counties will hold a district convention at Cottage Grove tonight. An interesting program will be rendered, and lodge work will be taken up.

L. R. Stinson, G. K. R. S.; Hon. J. G. Graham and Frank T. Wrightman, of this city and Judge Cake and Frank Grant, of Portland, will be in attendance.

PANAMA CANAL REPORTS

Washington, Feb. 18.—In the investigation of the Panama railway before the house committee on interstate commerce today E. A. Drake, vice-president of the company, testified that Commissioner Harrison was the only member of the commission who drew fees as a member of the executive board, but that all of the canal commissioners, except General Davis, accepted fees for attending meetings. Drake was ordered to submit to the committee on Monday the books and accounts of the railroad, showing these payments. It is said that a majority of the stock of the Pacific Mail Steamship company is owned by the South Pacific, and that the Panama Railroad and Steamship Company divided all freight receipts equally.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Admiral Walker, chairman of the Panama canal commission, in an interview today, said that the President himself authorized the members of the commission to accept fees as directors of the Panama railroad, that he had bought stock in the railroad with the authority of the secretary of war, with government funds. The dividends on the stock were turned over to the government.

William Nelson Cromwell, attorney for the Panama railroad, told the committee that, in his judgment, the bill passed by the house condemning the outstanding railroad is unconstitutional. The railroad was a necessity to the canal. He denied that the railway company has any connection with the Southern or Union Pacific of California, stating that he had attended meetings of the directors, but had refused to accept fees.

RUSSIAN OPERATORS STRIKE

Moscow, Feb. 18.—The telegraph operators on the Moscow-Risan and Moscow-Windau railways struck today, demanding a minimum of \$20 a month for eight hours a day. The roads are tied up. Three thousand employees of the Southwestern railway have also walked out.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—Several thousand employees of the Sormovo works struck today.

ACQUITTED OF WIFE MURDER

New London, Feb. 18.—The jury this morning in the case of Dr. T. J. Watson, charged with the murder of his wife, returned a verdict of not guilty.

Watson was accused of poisoning his wife to secure the insurance she carried in his favor. The parties are wealthy and prominent.

RUSSIAN NIHILISTS RAMPANT

Confessions of Assassins Reveal Plot to Kill Many of the Royalists

The Czar Will Be Allowed to Live Until He Has Signed the Constitution---Inflammatory Circulars Circulated

Moscow, Feb. 18.—The assassin of Duke Sergius, in the 48th year of his age. "He was stricken down," the manifesto says, "by the ruthless hand of an assassin, who aimed at his life, so dear to us. Mourning in him an uncle and friend, whose whole life of activity and care was always devoted to the service of our house and fatherland, we have firm confidence that all our subjects will share and sympathize in our sorrow and will unite their heartfelt prayers with our own for the repose of the soul of the departed.

"Given in our palace at Tsarko-Selo. NICHOLAS."

Moscow, Feb. 18.—The body of Sergius lies in the Choudoff Monastery, where it was removed yesterday. The church bells are tolling today. Masses are being celebrated, priests are ceaselessly chanting prayers for the repose of the soul of the murdered duke. The widowed grand duchess is prostrated. She remains in her apartment in the Little Palace, and is not able to attend the requiem mass. Troops are patrolling the inside of the Kremlin, from which the public is excluded. All shops are closed, and the newspapers have mourning borders. In several instances students have been roughly handled on the streets.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—It is not generally believed that the assassination of Sergius is the cause of the czar reconsidering his proclamation of reforms for the working men. It is thought probable that the opposite effect is the result and that a new era will be hastened by the act, which was to indicate the desperate state of the minds of the revolutionary element. Sazonneff, the assassin of M. Plehve, wrote a confession before his execution, giving in detail the aims of the terrorists, which included the assassination of Sergius. He said: "We don't expect to overthrow the existing system by assassinations. Our one object is to avenge the cruel wrongs inflicted on the people. We assassinated Plehve not because we thought to shatter the government, but because of his innumerable crimes. Our party is in reality devoted to a peaceful propaganda, and it's only when ministers refuse us our rights of speaking in human language that we use language of another kind. It is the violent repression of popular aspirations which causes our revolutionism. It is because the government does not permit the freedom of speech, press and assembly that we preach the necessity for a change."

Paris, Feb. 18.—According to reliable information the Russian Nihilists have selected the Grand Duke Vladimir as their victim. Governor-General Trepoff, of St. Petersburg, is to follow. Then will come M. Pobiedonotzeff, procurator of the holy synod. The czar's turn will not come until after he has signed the constitution, since his signature is necessary. It is thought the Russian government will resort to reaction in hopes of saving the lives of many prominent men.

Odessa, Feb. 18.—Leaflets are being circulated this morning signed by the South Russian section of the Social Democratic revolutionary society, announcing the death of Sergius, concluding thus: "The event marks the beginning of a war of reprisal forced on the people by the unbending stubbornness and intolerable oppressive rule of the present regime."

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—Memorial services for Sergius were held in the Stasch cathedral today. A large congregation was present, including many grand dukes and other notable personages. It is announced that the funeral of Sergius will be held several days hence within the Kremlin at Moscow. The czar and the imperial family will be represented by the Grand Duke Alexief. The council of the empire will hold an extraordinary sitting to consider the situation resulting from the assassination of Sergius.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—Emperor Nicholas has issued a manifesto stating that a very heavy sorrow has fallen upon the people in the death of Grand

TERRIBLE MINING DISASTER

Cage Drops 1200 Feet With Twenty-Five Miners

Pottsville, Pa., Feb. 18.—Feb. 18.—Ten men are reported to be entombed in a cave in the Lyttle collier of the Susquehanna Coal Company, at Minersville, this morning.

While a cage containing ten workmen as being lowered in the shaft of the Lyttle mine this morning it struck some timbers projecting from the side of the shaft, and knocked the bottom out of the cage precipitating the men 1200 feet to the bottom of the shaft. It is believed they were all crushed to death.

The cage contained 25 miners, five of whom are dead and 20 injured.

DEVELOPMENT CONVENTION.

Large Meeting Held at McMinnville Today to Help the Fair.

McMinnville, Feb. 18.—(Special)—A large convention under the auspices of the State Development League is being held here today, the chief purpose of which is to assist in the matter of getting up a large exhibit for the Lewis and Clark fair. Tom Richardson, of Portland, and Col. Hofer, of Salem, are among the prominent speakers from abroad.

DAYLIGHT DIAMOND ROBBERY

New York, Feb. 18.—Within two doors of their home on 138th street, early this morning Mr. and Mrs. John Cornish were held up. Mrs. Cornish was robbed of a \$5000 diamond brooch. In trying to defend his wife, Cornish, who is reputed to be a millionaire, was shot and seriously wounded by the bandit, who escaped.

Working on Hague Treaty.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Representative Bartholdt, of St. Louis, called at the White House this morning, and introduced Payne Davis, the distinguished authority on international law. On leaving they said the President would, at the next meeting of The Hague conference, present for the consideration of the powers a general treaty of arbitration, containing substantially the terms of the treaties which the senate rejected.

Sweden-Norway Cynosolates.

Christiana, Feb. 18.—The Storting has decided to refer the question of separate consulates for Sweden and Norway to the committee of nineteen.

RUSSIAN ARMIES MOVING

Active Work at the Front in Spite of Peace Rumors

Tokio, Feb. 18.—It is reported that the Russians are showing increased activity on both flanks, and extending and strengthening their right, evidently for an aggressive movement.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—The Russians are concentrating in force in front of Kuroki's position south of Mukden, preparatory to starting an offensive movement.

The impression prevails that General Kuropatkin is preparing to assume the aggressive. The weather is still unfavorable, but the excessive cold weather will soon be over.

Chinese reports to the effect that General Kuropatkin is preparing to abandon the Shalke river line and retire northward are discredited here.

SENATORS' BRIBERY CASES

Sacramento, Feb. 18.—Senators French, Bunkers, Emmons and Wright were arraigned with indictments charging them with bribery in the superior court this morning. Bunkers and Emmons entered demurrers, which are now being argued. The cases of French and Wright have been postponed until next Thursday, when a motion will be made to quash the indictments. None of the four made pleas.

When the senators were arraigned the court room was crowded with spectators. The arguments of the defendants attorney were chiefly directed to the proposition that bribery consists in the payment of money to influence a vote. The position taken was that the senators hadn't voted, consequently that there was no bribery.

STRIKE LEADERS ABROAD

Marseilles, Feb. 18.—Father Gopon, the former leader of the St. Petersburg strikers, arrived here Wednesday, from Lyons, accompanied by two Russian students, and had a lengthy conference with friends here. He left for Rome last night. The police watched his movements very closely.

Salem's Best Store

Jos. Meyers & Sons
SALEM'S GREATEST STORE
THE "WHITE CORNER" (TRADE MARK)

Salem's Shopping Center

FORECAST OF SPRING

Is what you will see by taking a glance through our stock. The warm, heavy goods are fast retiring, the dainty, cool fabrics are to be seen in their stead. No better time than now to make your spring purchases. The prices are right; the variety to select from is larger than elsewhere.

Spring Skirts

Our stock of spring skirts is now at its best. We offer what we believe is the market's best offering's. Skirts of all the late styles, colors and lengths.

\$2.50 to \$35

Covert Jackets

New, nobby and neat tan covert jackets in the latest spring styles. All sizes.

\$8.50 to \$15

Wrappers

NEW LINE JUST IN

All new patterns in percales in stripes and checks; also a full line of long and short

KIMONOS.

in the newest styles and shades.

Spring Dress Goods

Our dress goods stock will hold their decided leadership this spring by an unusually strong showing of staples and a superior display of the new and novel. In the showing are: **SILK AND WOOLEN EOLIENS, SILK AND WOOL CREPE DE PARIS**

PLAIN AND FANCY MOHAIRS, PANAMA CLOTH IN SMALL CHECKS, BOXANA SUITING, MARCELITA ARMURES AND MANY MORE

Wash Goods

Spring has come to stay at this store. The better grade of wash goods are all in and ready for looking. From day to day the display increases as fast as we can unpack and check off the goods. Come in and look around. You are welcome.

Big Cut in Trousers

No reserve. Entire stock of up-to-date trousers at sale prices: \$2.75 values now\$1.75 3.50 values now\$2.25 4.00 values now\$2.85 4.50 values now\$3.25 5.00 values now\$3.45 6.00 values now\$4.25

Men's Shirts

Spring styles in new golf shirts now ready. See them.

\$1.00 to \$2.00

New Caps

Tourist automobile and golf caps, all wanted shades, for ladies, misses and boys.

50c to \$1.00

Boys Suits

Still have a few suits at special prices. Come while they last.